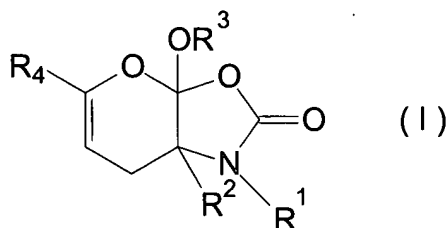


CURRENT CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A 7a-alkoxy-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one represented by the formula (I):




wherein R¹ represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aryl group or an aralkyl group; R² represents a hydrogen atom, ~~an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aryl group or an aralkyl group~~; R³ represents an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aryl group or an aralkyl group, provided that a 2-alkenyl group is excluded from the alkenyl group of R³; and R⁴ represents a methyl group or a n-propyl group ~~an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkoxycarbonyl group or a cyano group~~.

2. (currently amended) The 7a-alkoxy-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one according to claim 1, wherein

R¹ represents an alkyl group, a phenyl group or an aralkyl group, R² represents a hydrogen atom, ~~an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aryl group or an aralkyl group~~, R³ represents an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group or an aryl group, R⁴ represents a

methyl group or a n-propyl group ~~an alkyl group or an aryl group.~~




3. (currently amended) The 7a-alkoxy-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one according to claim 1, wherein R¹ represents a benzyl group, a 1-phenylethyl group, a diphenylmethyl group, a phenyl group, a (1-naphthyl)methyl group or a 1-(1-naphthyl)ethyl group, R² represents a hydrogen atom, ~~a methyl group, an ethyl group, a n-propyl group or an isopropyl group,~~ R³ represents ~~a methyl group, an ethyl group, a n-propyl group, an isopropyl group, a tert-butyl group, a phenyl group, a cyclohexyl group, a menthyl group or an 8-phenylmenthyl group,~~ R⁴ represents a methyl group, ~~an ethyl group,~~ or a n-propyl group, ~~an isopropyl group, an n-butyl group, an isobutyl group, a tert-butyl group or a phenyl group.~~

4. (currently amended) The 7a-alkoxy-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one according to claim 1, wherein the 7a-alkoxy-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one represented by the formula (I) is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of:
3-diphenylmethyl-7a-ethoxy-6-methyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;
3-diphenylmethyl-7a-methoxy-6-methyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;

3-diphenylmethyl-7a-((1)-menthyloxy)-6-methyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-
oxazol-2(3H)-one;

3-diphenylmethyl-3a-methyl-7a-methoxy-6-methyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-
oxazol-2(3H)-one;

 ~~3-diphenylmethyl-7a-methoxy-6-ethyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-~~
~~2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-diphenylmethyl-7a-methoxy-6-isopropyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-~~
~~2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-diphenylmethyl-7a-methoxy-6-tert-butyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-~~
~~oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-diphenylmethyl-7a-methoxy-6-methoxycarbonyl-4H-pyrano-[3,2-d]-~~
~~oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-diphenylmethyl-7a-methoxy-6-isopropoxycarbonyl-4H-pyrano-[3,2-~~
~~d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-diphenylmethyl-7a-methoxy-6-ethoxycarbonyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-~~
~~oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-diphenylmethyl-7a-methoxy-6-cyano-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-~~
~~2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-diphenylmethyl-7a-methoxy-6-phenyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-~~
~~2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-diphenylmethyl-7a-ethoxy-6-ethyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-~~
~~2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-diphenylmethyl-7a-ethoxy-6-isopropyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-~~
~~2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-diphenylmethyl-7a-ethoxy-6-tert-butyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-diphenylmethyl-7a-ethoxy-6-isobutyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-diphenylmethyl-7a-ethoxy-6-methoxycarbonyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-diphenylmethyl-7a-ethoxy-6-phenyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

3-(1-phenylethyl)-7a-methoxy-6-methyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;

3-(1-phenylethyl)-7a-isopropoxy-6-methyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;

3-(1-phenylethyl)-7a-((1)-menthyloxy)-6-methyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;

~~3-(1-phenylethyl)-7a-methoxy-6-ethyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-(1-phenylethyl)-7a-methoxy-6-(n-butyl)-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

3-benzyl-7a-methoxy-6-methyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;

3-benzyl-7a-isopropoxy-6-methyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;

3-benzyl-7a-((1)-menthyloxy)-6-methyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;

~~3-benzyl-7a-methoxy-6-tert-butyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-benzyl-7a-methoxy-6-ethyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-benzyl-7a-methoxy-6-isopropyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-benzyl-7a-methoxy-6-methoxycarbonyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-benzyl-7a-methoxy-6-phenyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-(1-naphthyl)methyl-7a-isopropoxy-6-methyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-(1-naphthyl)methyl-7a-methoxy-6-ethyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

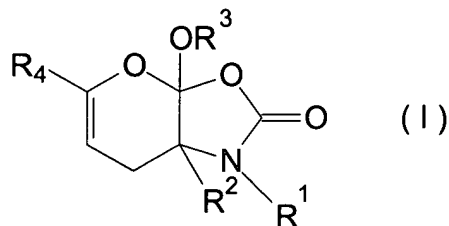
~~3-(1-naphthyl)methyl-7a-methoxy-6-tert-butyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-(1-naphthyl)methyl-7a-methoxy-6-isopropyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one;~~

~~3-(1-(1-naphthyl)ethyl)-7a-methoxy-6-methyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one; and~~

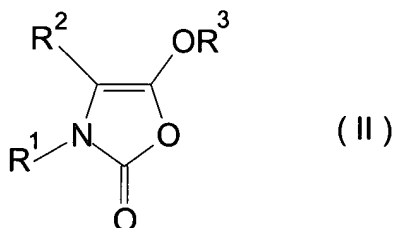
~~3-(1-(1-naphthyl)ethyl)-7a-methoxy-6-tert-butyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one.~~

5. (currently amended) A process for producing a 7a-alkoxy-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one represented by the formula (I):

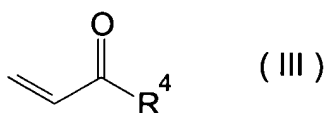


wherein R¹ represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aryl group or an aralkyl group; R² represents a hydrogen atom, ~~an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aryl group or an aralkyl group~~; R³ represents an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aryl group or an aralkyl group, provided that a 2-alkenyl group is excluded from the alkenyl group of R³; and R⁴ represents a methyl group or an n-propyl group ~~an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkoxy carbonyl group or a cyano group~~,

which comprises reacting a 5-alkoxy-2(3H)-oxazolone represented by the formula (II):

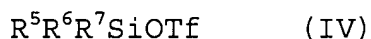


wherein R¹, R² and R³ are the same as defined above, with an α,β -unsaturated ketone represented by the formula (III):



wherein R⁴ is the same as defined above, in an organic solvent in the presence of a Lewis acid.

6. (original) The process for producing a 7a-alkoxy-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one according to claim 5, wherein the Lewis acid is represented by the formula (IV):



wherein R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ each independently represent an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms and Tf represents a trifluoromethanesulfonyl group.

7. (currently amended) The 7a-alkoxy-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one according to Claim 1, wherein R¹ is an alkyl group, an aralkyl group or a phenyl group, R² is a hydrogen atom, R³ is an alkyl group, and R⁴ is a methyl group or an n-propyl ~~an alkyl~~ group.

8. (currently amended) The 7a-alkoxy-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one according to Claim 1, wherein R¹ is an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group or a phenyl group, R² is a hydrogen atom, R³ is an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, and R⁴ is a methyl group or an n-propyl group ~~an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms~~.

9. (previously added) The 7a-alkoxy-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one according to Claim 1, wherein R³ is a methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl, n-hexyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl group, menthyl, 8-phenylmenthyl, vinyl, propenyl, 1-butenyl, 1-pentenyl, 3-pentenyl, 1-hexenyl, 3-hexenyl, 4-hexenyl, cyclopentenyl, cyclohexenyl, phenyl, 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, 2-methylphenyl, 3-methylphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 4-benzyloxyphenyl, 3-benzyloxyphenyl, 2-benzyloxyphenyl, 4-trimethylsilyloxyphenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 2-nitrophenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 4-fluorophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 3-chlorophenyl, 4-bromophenyl, 4-iodophenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3-methoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 4-tert-butoxyphenyl, 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl, 4-ethylphenyl, 4-(n-propyl)phenyl, 4-isopropylphenyl, 4-tert-butylphenyl, 4-dimethylaminophenyl, 4-diethylaminophenyl, benzyl, 1-phenylethyl, 2-phenylethyl, 1-phenylpropyl, 2-phenylpropyl, 3-phenylpropyl, 4-phenylbutyl, 1-(1-naphthyl)ethyl, 1-(2-naphthyl)ethyl, 1-naphthylmethyl, 4-methylbenzyl, 4-ethylbenzyl, 4-isobutylbenzyl, 4-isopropylbenzyl, 4-tert-butylbenzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl, 3,4-dimethoxybenzyl, 3,4-methylenedioxybenzyl, 3,4-diethoxybenzyl, 4-benzyloxybenzyl, 4-tert-butyl dimethylsilyloxybenzyl, 4-nitrobenzyl, 2-nitrobenzyl, 4-fluorobenzyl, 2-fluorobenzyl, 4-chlorobenzyl, 3-chlorobenzyl, 4-bromobenzyl, 4-iodobenzyl, 4-cyanobenzyl, 4-dimethylaminobenzyl, 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl, 2-

(4-benzyloxyphenyl)ethyl, 2-(4-tert-butyl dimethylsilyloxy-phenyl)ethyl or 2-(4-nitrophenyl)ethyl group.


10. (previously added) The 7a-alkoxy-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]-oxazol-2(3H)-one according to Claim 1, wherein R³ is a methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl or tert-butyl group.

~~11. (canceled)~~

~~12. (canceled)~~

13. (canceled)

14. (previously added) 3-diphenylmethyl-7a-methoxy-6-methyl-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]oxazol-2(3H)-one.

 15. (new) 3-(1-phenylethyl-7a-methoxy-6-(n-propyl)-4H-pyrano[3,2-d]oxazol-2(3H)-one.
